

**Vote NO on HB 5326 -AN ACT CONCERNING COMPASSIONATE AID IN DYING FOR TERMINALLY ILL PATIENTS.**

1. **Suicide is one of the worst ways that families can lose a loved one.** There is no closure. **It is a selfish act,** that only seemingly “benefits” the person killing themselves, while the rest of their family is left to grieve & carry the guilt of their absence for a lifetime. **Knowing this, how can we possibly make this act legal? Have we become this Self-absorbed as a society? Where the ONLY happiness that matters, is MY happiness?**
2. **This bill is a recipe for elder (and doctor) abuse.** Such legislation inevitably leads to a slippery slope, where people can be made to feel guilty about ‘being a burden on their family or on society’. **It starts with the terminally ill patient, but can easily expand to other “burdensome” populations of patients, such as: people with disabilities, diabetes, cancer, Parkinsons disease, Muscular Dystrophy, etc.** **Our Task, as human beings, is to Love one another, not Terminate one another.** We’re called to ensure that people are loved & cared for, not made to feel a burden. Human life is far more precious than that.
3. **Doctors are supposed to Help, not Kill, their patients.** I oppose licensing doctors to prescribe lethal drugs for the purpose of taking a human life, prescribing suicide as a “treatment”. **Assisted Suicide “treats” nothing, it only kills people.**
4. **Most people that attempt suicide are clinically depressed. Are these the kind of patients we should be putting lethal doses in front of? Can you not see the potential for abuse? The great potential loss of human life? The potential life-long pain & guilt of families?**
5. **Suicide is the murder of oneself, and Assisted suicide, is the same result.** Is this something we really want readily available? **A healthy society does not Kill its citizens,** or go down the slippery slope of **offering death, as a “medical solution” to anyone, let alone people who are terminal, vulnerable, probably even, medically depressed.** **A healthy society is called to love and support such vulnerable citizens, not inject them with lethal doses, and say goodbye!**
6. To clarify, I do not support keeping a patient alive -by extraordinary means (being kept alive by a machine only)- against that patient's will. **But that is a far cry from assisting the Murder of someone.** I DO support **true aid-in-dying, which is hospice care,** where a patient’s dignity, worth, and medical treatment, is always upheld.
7. **Assisted Suicide is bad public policy that puts vulnerable populations at risk. It is a recipe for elder abuse.**

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